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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/620,164	
	Filing Date	07/14/2003	
	First Named Inventor	James A. Rowe	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	

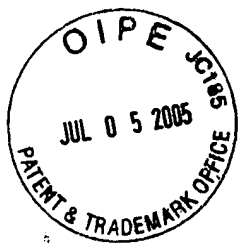
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Antonette M. Tease, P.L.L.C.		
Signature			
Printed name	Antonette M. Tease		
Date	06/29/2005	Reg. No.	53680

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/620,164
Filing Date: 07/14/2003
Applicant: James A. Rowe
Title: Medical Tank Strap System
Examiner/GAU: A. Bunin/Unknown

PROVISIONAL ELECTION

The Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to a phone call from the examiner on June 14, 2005, in which he stated that the applicant would be required to elect either Group I (claims 1-7) or Group II (claims 8-21), the applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, Group I (claims 1-7) for further examination on the merits in the present application.

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement because the PTO has not carried forward its burden of proof to establish distinctness. In particular, MPEP § 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding election requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the examiner.



Respectfully submitted,

Antoinette M. Tease
Attorney for Applicant
PO Box 51016
Billings, MT 59105
(406) 245-5254
Registration No. 53860

Certificate of Mailing: I certify that on the date below this document and referenced attachments, if any, were deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450."

Donnetta Graham
June 29, 2005